1	2	3	4	5
6.	Application of Ergonomics for Improvement of Working Conditions and Productivity in Factories, Docks and Small and Medium Enterprises	25.0	25.0	26.0

Suggestions by National Commission for Enterprises for unorganised sector

†1787. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Commission for Enterprises in unorganised sector has given certain suggestions to provide social security to the 34 crore labourers in unorganised sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such suggestions;

(c) whether any assessment has been made about the funds required to implement these suggestions; and

(d) if so, what is that amount and Government's reaction with regard to acceptance of these suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector (NCEUS), in its report, has recommended for national minimum social security benefits for unorganised sector workers which, *inter-alia*, include life and disability cover, health insurance, old age protection and any other scheme as deemed necessary.

(c) and (d) The proposal and suggestions of the NCEDS are being examined.

Increase in interest rate of EPF

†1788. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any step is being taken by Government to increase interest rate on Employees Provident Fund deposit for the year 2007-08;

(b) if so, the percentage of increase in the rate of interest;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when the meeting of C.B.T. (Central Board of Trustees) would be called for fixing the rate of interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The rate of interest on

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Employees' Provident Fund deposits is decided by the Government in consultation with the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund. Government have not received any proposal from the Board on the rate of interest for the year 2007-08.

(d) No date for the meeting of the Board has been fixed on this issue.

Amendment to Industrial Disputes Act

1789. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:
SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Industrial Disputes Act to accommodate a grievance redressal committee in the industrial units that have 20 or more employees; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) In accordance with requirement of the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) that changes in labour laws must take place after consultation with the industry and trade unions, Ministry of Labour and Employment has held tripartite consultations and formulated certain draft proposals for amendment in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The draft proposals are at the stage of consultation with the Central Ministries/Departments.

Strikes by workers in public and private sector

1790. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is correct to say that the total number of strikes by the workers during 2006 in public sector and private sector are 111 and 329 respectively;

(b) if so, how do they compare with the total number of strikes during 2004 and 2005;

(c) what are all the broad causes for such strikes; and

(d) what are the extra steps taken to ensure industrial peace and good labour management?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Labour Bureau, Shimla, which compiles the figures of strikes in the country, have furnished the following figures of strikes in public and private sector during 2004, 2005 and 2006:

Year	2004		2005		2006 (Provisional)	
	Public	Pvt.	Public	Pvt.	Public	Pvt.
Strikes	47	189	56	171	88	158